Winnipeg metro

Your essential daily news | THURSDAY, JANUARY 5, 2017

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CANADA'S PREHISTORIC POTATOES
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Bracing for winter

Jason Bekolay and his ice beard cycle to work on Wednesday.
DAVID LIPNOWSKI/FOR METRO

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Retro Rhythm Review disbanded in 2011 and will play two rare reunion shows at the Good Will Social Club on Jan. 6 and 7. CONTRIBUTED

Get ready to rumba to Retro Rhythm Review

MUSIC

Motown-cover band's reunion is this weekend

Jessica Botelho-Urbanski
For Metro|Winnipeg

The essential 4Rs this weekend? Retro Rhythm Review returns.

The beloved Motown-cover band from Winnipeg packed the King's Head Pub every second Friday during the early 2000s. Now they're rehearsing for two rare reunion shows at the Good Will Social Club on Friday and Saturday.

And although they'll be playing new stomping grounds, no one can forget the way their dance parties used to shake the second floor of the King's Head, including bass player Daniel Jordan.

"The first time we ever played Bohemian Rhapsody in its entirety... the bar downstairs had all the glasses hanging from the roof, and several of them started to fall. The floor was flexing," he said.

After their last public performance on New Year's Eve in 2011, Jordan has been trying to get the full 10-piece band back together, with no luck. Their busy and diverse music careers lend more to globe-trotting than at-home jamming.

"Never in a three-week period over the holidays have more than six people been available on the same day.

"Then suddenly there were two nights where everybody was going to be in town, which was shocking," said Jordan, the self-proclaimed traffic director of the stage.

"I think with 10 people on stage, there's 10 really unique personalities," said singer Sol James. "We had all these dances and everyone was kind of featured in their own way.

"I think the show was never boring. We got really good at being a well-oiled machine and going kind of seamlessly through our set so people didn't have a chance to stop dancing."

James moved onto playing solo gigs and is part of soul-revival band, the Solutions. Jordan plays with local folkies Red Moon Road and nearly every other bandmate has also taken up with a new group, occupying real estate in Royal Canoe, Sweet Alibi, the Bros. Landreth and the Dirty Catfish Brass Band, among others.

Singer Rayannah has been touring the globe as a solo artist and will jet off to Germany to perform the day after the Retro Rhythm Review reunion.

When the group got together in 2007, it was supposed to be for a one-off gig accompanying Jordan's uncle Peter Jordan (a.k.a. Rocki Rolletti) for a show at The Forks. But having enjoyed performing together so much, they stuck with it.

At the time, Rayannah was 17 years old and "technically couldn't play the bar gigs, but you know, you make things work," she said, with a laugh.

Now, most of the time when she crosses paths with old friends, it's in airports while on tour, she said, adding she's looking forward to spending a week rehearsing and catching up properly.

"Of course we're doing it for the fans of the music, but we're also totally doing it for ourselves," Rayannah joked.

"I'm excited to just feel the nostalgia and sort of bask in it, revisit this old music and be with my family again," said James.

"I think the kind of music that we play is timeless. In my opinion, it's the best dance music that was ever made."

HEAR THEM PLAY

Still a chance to get tickets for Saturday's show

Retro Rhythm Review plays the Good Will Social Club on Friday and Saturday. Doors open at 9 p.m. Friday's presale is sold out, while a handful of advance tickets for Saturday are still available through Music Trader, the Good Will and Ticket Fly. A limited number of tickets for both nights will be available at the door.

COMPETITION

WestJet causes NewLeaf grief

Discount air carrier NewLeaf Travel says it is cancelling plans to offer flights between Alberta and the Phoenix-Mesa airport in Arizona this year because another airline copied the idea.

Jim Young, president and CEO of the Winnipeg-based company, made the announcement Tuesday on the company's Facebook page.

He said within hours of NewLeaf announcing the Arizona route, another airline "lowered its fares and offered service to an airport it had previously ignored for over a decade."

He called it "a classic case of the big guy squishing the little guy so that the big guy can profit more."

He said NewLeaf will also be postponing its service to Florida from Hamilton, Ont.

WestJet announced back in November that it would begin flights between Calgary and Edmonton and the Phoenix-Mesa airport on Jan. 19.

"The airline business is more challenging than it seems and this airline appears to be blaming one airline for their woes in a particular market without providing the travelling public the full story," WestJet spokeswoman Lauren Stewart said.

Young said NewLeaf is in the process of issuing refunds to customers.

"We sincerely hope and in fact challenge the other airlines to keep the fares low for you so that you can still travel south for the winter," he said in the Facebook post. "Understandably, you are upset, and so are we as it was the last thing we had hoped to do. But I will be honest and state that because we are so committed to being here for the long run we must focus our efforts on our Canadian destinations."

Last month, a federal court ruled that passengers who lose luggage or encounter cancelled flights while flying with NewLeaf Travel need to take it up with the flight operator Flair Airlines, not the discount ticket reseller.

In a decision Dec. 15, the Federal Court of Appeal dismissed a motion by passenger advocate Gabor Lukacs, who argued that consumers' rights were unprotected because NewLeaf is permitted to operate without an air licence from the Canadian Transportation Agency.

The three-judge panel disagreed, ruling that travellers are still protected because the flights are run by Kelowna, B.C.,-based Flair Airlines, which is licensed under the CTA. THE CANADIAN PRESS

> A classic case of the big guy squishing the little guy so that the big guy can profit more.
>
> Jim Young, CEO NewLeaf

metro NEWS
Your essential daily news

Computers may soon be making immigration decisions. **Canada**

Make our roads safer: Lukes

MUNICIPAL POLITICS

Councillor urges zero tolerance for traffic deaths

Stephanie Taylor
Metro | Winnipeg

Janice Lukes knows what it's like to lose a loved one on the road.

That's partly why the St. Norbert councillor is urging her peers to make Winnipeg's roads safer.

"My dad died in a car crash. An 18-year-old kid also died in the same car crash. Could it have been prevented? Probably," Lukes said.

"I've got three boys, three 14-year-olds. I've got a real vested interest in road safety."

Next week, she will call on the public works committee to implement a city-wide road safety strategy. She also plans to ask that department staff study the best practices in other cities, such as those inspired by Vision Zero — a Swedish approach to road safety that has seen a dramatic decrease in fatalities.

Essentially, it operates on the belief that road deaths are preventable through better design, education and management.

"With the interested levels of carnage that we're seeing on the roads, with the increased distracted driving, with marijuana being legalized, with our aging population, we need to be doing everything we can to look at improving road safety," Lukes said in an interview Wednesday.

"If it means sending off some people to study it for a while, we need to be doing it."

Manitoba Public Insurance says its preliminary figures show 109 people died on provincial roadways in 2016 — an increase from 78 deaths recorded in 2015.

An example of a road design using Vision Zero principles would be building a pedestrian island at the halfway point of multi-lane roadway, Lukes explains.

She will host a forum on the internationally-acclaimed road safety approach Jan. 30.

She points out that both the provincial and federal governments have recently taken steps to place more focus on road safety and that the city should follow suit.

Committee chairman Coun. Marty Morantz, however, says there are road safety practices already in place and questions the need to formalize these efforts into a comprehensive policy.

He also points out the city's efforts already follow Canada's Road Safety Strategy 2025.

But Lukes said a long-term plan — like the 2011 Transportation Master Plan or the $334-million cycling and pedestrian strategy — would better guide city hall.

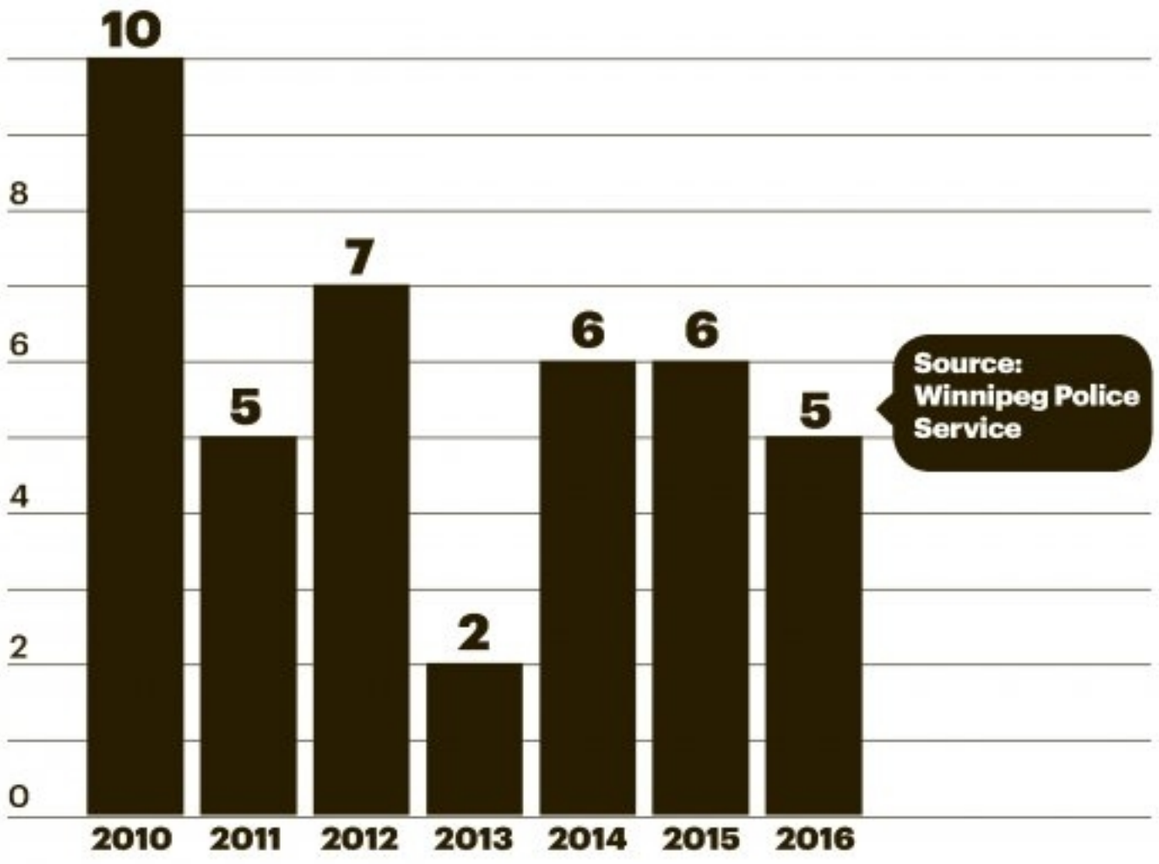
She expects her motion to come forward at next Tuesday's meeting of the infrastructure renewal and public works committee.

WITH FILES FROM BRAEDEN JONES/METRO

109
Number of people who died on provincial roadways in 2016

78
Number of provincial road deaths in 2015

AT A GLANCE | Pedestrian deaths between 2010 -2016



St. Norbert Coun. Janice Lukes METRO FILE

IN BRIEF

First homicide of year
Winnipeg police are investigating the city's first homicide of 2017.

Officers found a man lying on the road near Thames Avenue and Watt Street on Jan. 3, after responding to a report of gunshots. Winnipeg Fire Paramedic Service sent him to hospital, where he was pronounced dead.

Anyone with information can call 204-986-6508 or Crime Stoppers at 204-786-TIPS (8477).

LUCY SCHOLEY / METRO

Car thieves thriving
It's tempting to leave your car running for a warmer commute in this frigid weather, but Winnipeg police are warning drivers about a series of vehicle thefts.

More than 140 vehicles were reported stolen in December, according to a police news release. A "large portion" of the victim drivers left their vehicles running to warm up. LUCY SCHOLEY / METRO

Clunis writes life story
Winnipeg's former police chief is releasing a book about his life.

Devon Clunis and his wife Pearlene wrote the book, The Little Boy From Jamaica, together.

McNally Robinson bookstore says the book is about how Clunis grew up in rural Jamaica before moving to Canada and becoming the first black chief of police in the country. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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HOMELESSNESS

Need doesn't end at end of giving season

Braeden Jones
Metro | Winnipeg

The giving season was good to Winnipeg's homeless and poor who rely on downtown shelters.

But while holidays have ended, the recent cold snap reminds us that winter has not.

For people without a home, a cold spell is a "horrendous experience," according to the Siloam Mission's chief executive officer.

"December is always a high month in terms of donations, and then come January unfortunately it tends to scale back," said Garry Corbett, adding a call for continued support as "the need is still there."

"People forget about the giving season."

Corbett explained that "no one is to blame" for the annual goodwill lull following the holidays, but "people just tend to forget there are poor in January, February and March."

When shelters downtown are at capacity on nights dipping below -30 C, their budgets are stretched thin and they "still have months to go."

During what he calls a "wicked cold spell," Corbett invites Winnipeggers and Manitobans to keep giving.

> **Come January unfortunately (donations) tends to scale back.**
> Garry Corbett

Whether it's money, volunteer hours, warm clothes or other essential items, he said the need is always there.

Apart from the post-season lull, Corbett said every year, "from Thanksgiving to Christmas," he's impressed and touched by the generosity shown to Winnipeg's most vulnerable citizens through donations.

"It's absolutely fantastic, Winnipeggers and Manitobans are the most charitable individuals in Canada," he said. "We've asked for clothing, warm clothing, toques, mittens, scarves, boots… (they've) stepped up and provided for us."

And in turn, Siloam has been equipping folks in need, helping them find warmth in a cold, brutal winter.

Corbett said every donation helps, and they have come in many shapes and sizes.

Some families provided hundreds of sandwich lunches, restaurants sponsored meals or arranged to donate one pizza for every pizza ordered, and dozens of people donated their time during the busy holidays.

Monetary donations range from significant corporate sponsorships worth thousands of dollars to "little boys and girls donating piggy banks."

"Every gift is appreciated as much as the other," Corbett said. "The larger gifts help more people, the smaller ones come from a heart of caring."

BRAEDEN JONES/METRO

RECREATION RINKING IN THE NEW YEAR Site Supervisor for Sir John Franklin Community Centre Scott Street snow blows a hockey rink Wednesday January 4, 2016. DAVID LIPNOWSKI/FOR METRO

Councillor wants meeting on snow

CITY HALL

Russ Wyatt not satisfied with pace of removal after record fall

Stephanie Taylor
Metro | Winnipeg

Coun. Russ Wyatt wants senior bureaucrats to explain what he calls "slow" sidewalk snow clearing in Winnipeg.

The Transcona councillor has requested that Mayor Brian Bowman and city hall's chief administrative officer, Doug McNeil, hold a closed-door meeting to bring councillors up to speed on this winter's snow plowing operations.

"We've got a problem when it comes to the snow removal, specifically a lot of concern when it come to the sidewalk removal," he said Wednesday, adding he's fielded countless complaints from residents.

He says there are examples of regional roadways being cleared, but the adjacent sidewalks are still being buried under a mountain of snow.

Winnipeg's recorded snowfall amount in December was 68.8 centimetres, according to Environment Canada.

Mayor Brian Bowman has asked residents to have patience with city crews who have been working around the clock to clear roads, sidewalks and back lanes.

"Mother Nature throws a lot at us in winter and the last four weeks have been no exception," he said Wednesday

"This is three times the normal amount of snow fall in the month of December than we're used to, and we are dealing with historic volumes of snow."

Bowman added there are more than 400 pieces of snow clearing equipment currently at work.

Wyatt, however, argues there are far fewer sidewalk clearing machines, which is problematic.

He also observes somewhat of an operational slowdown since the second wallop of snow arrived Christmas Day.

"Are they going slow because of budget, mechanical, technical problems?"

"There's obviously something taking place," he said.

According to a city release issued Wednesday, plowing crews continue to focus on removing snow and ice packed onto priority one and two streets, as well as sidewalks.

> **Are they going slow because of budget, mechanical, technical problems?**
> Coun. Russ Wyatt

The release says 30 pieces of sidewalk clearing equipment were in use Wednesday to open up sidewalks and other trails.

An overnight parking ban on designated snow routes would remain in effect from midnight to 7 a.m.

WISE UP WINNIPEG

'Know your zone' tickets get contested

Despite a new app and the best intentions of a moustachioed grader and grinning plow, critics say problems persist with the city's "know your zone" ticketing practices.

"Nothing has changed," said traffic safety advocate and Wise Up Winnipeg founder Todd Dube.

He said the primary concern for members of his group is that the city continues to issue tickets "without erecting the temporary parking restriction signage" required by the Highway Traffic Act (HTA).

That's a position Dube has defended in appeal court, but not one he feels the city has properly addressed as members report the signage situation remains unchanged.

Last winter the city acknowledged thousands of tickets issued since 2011 were not HTA compliant because the ticketing occurred outside of HTA approved hours, leaving Dube's beef with the signage deficit unaddressed.

> **Nothing has changed.**
> Todd Dube

"Thirteen months ago they said they can't issue tickets outside of 11 p.m. and 6 a.m., however they split that off and continue status quo within that time frame," Dube explained.

As long as that legal position remains outstanding, it's one Dube intends to take back to court the first chance he gets.

BRAEDEN JONES/METRO

PRIZES

Forts are snow contest for startup business

Time to throw down the insulated gauntlet.

One Winnipeg family with a penchant for turning snow piles into snow palaces has launched a month-long snow fort building contest.

Barret Davies said he and his son Dexter, 10, have been making forts in their North Kildonan yard for years, and there's just something very "Winnipeggy" about the annual tradition.

"It's a fun activity for us to do together," Davies said, adding "there's lots of building material around."

So when Davies and his wife Lorena Villalobos launched a new business in the middle of a blizzard — a crowd-sourced retail delivery service called Bring It Now — the idea for the great snow fort build-off was hatched as both a positive spin on the oft-loathed white stuff and a "minimal marketing" tool.

"Lots of people are already building their own, so I figured why not add a little extra incentive… why don't we do a contest and see what other people come up with,'" Davies said. "Who doesn't love a good snow fort?"

> **There's lots of building material around.**
> Barret Davies

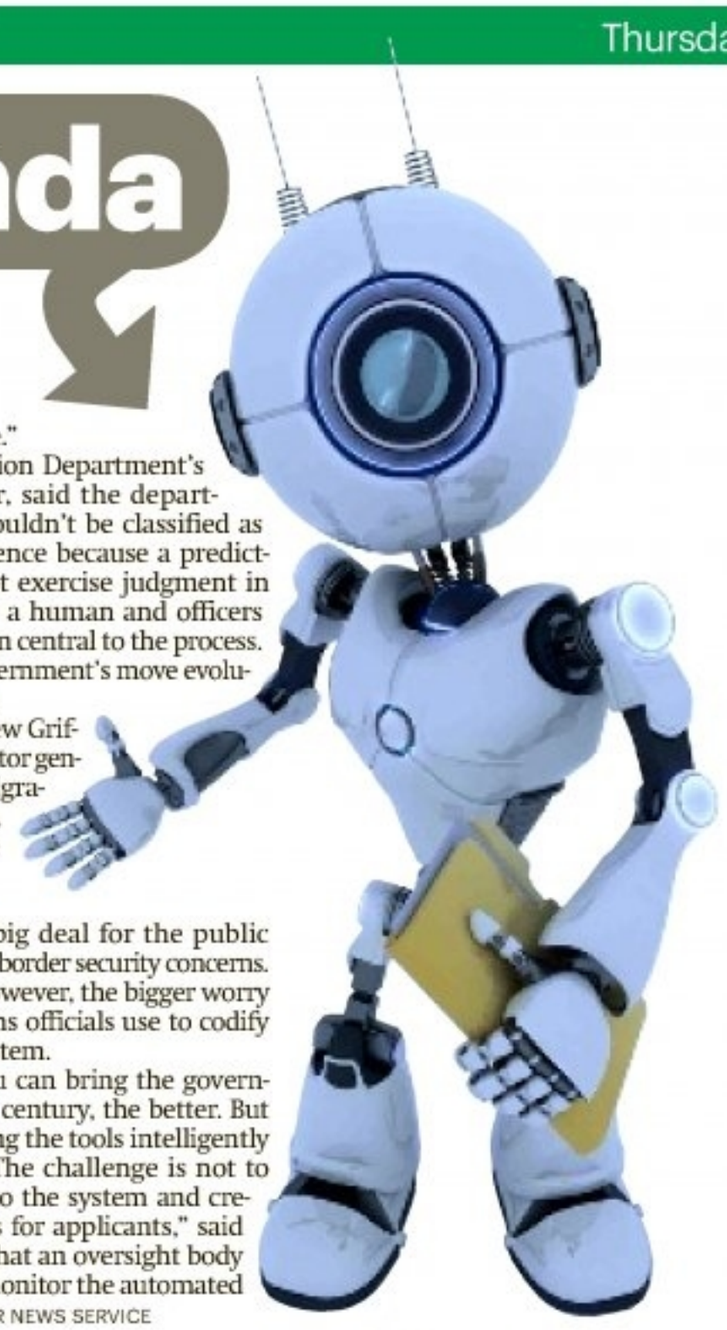
The contest invites families to upload pictures of their fort (built on their own property) to the Bring it Now Facebook Page, name their creation (because every good castle needs a name), and whichever fort receives the most votes will win a custom trophy and Bring It Now vouchers.

Other prizes are available for runner-ups, and entries will be accepted until Jan. 29.

BRAEDEN JONES/METRO

Welcome to Canada

Canadian immigration applications could soon be assessed by computers



Ottawa is quietly working on a plan to use computers to assess immigration applications and make some of the decisions currently made by immigration officers, Torstar News Service has learned.

Since 2014, the Immigration Department has been developing what's known as a "predictive analytics" system, which would evaluate applications in a way that's similar to the work performed by officials today.

The plan — part of the government's modernization of a system plagued by backlogs and delays — is to use the technology to identify the merits of an immigration application, spot potential red flags for fraud and weigh all these factors to recommend whether an applicant should be accepted or refused.

At the moment, the focus of the project is on building processes that would distinguish between high-risk and low-risk applications, immigration officials said.

"Predictive analytics models are built by analyzing thousands of past applications and their outcomes. This allows the computer to 'learn' by detecting patterns in the data, in a manner analogous to how officers learn through the experience of processing applications," department spokeswoman Lindsay Wemp. "The goal is to improve client service and increase operational efficiency by reducing processing times while strengthening program integrity."

The project was approved by the former Conservative government cabinet in February 2013. Wemp said there is no firm timeline on when automated decisions might be a viable option.

"The novelty of the technology and the importance of getting it right make it imperative that we do not rush this project," she explained.

With the proliferation of artificial intelligence in people's day-to-day lives, from IBM's Watson (the supercomputer that defeated Jeopardy! champions) to Google's self-driving cars, immigration experts said they were not surprised by the move toward automation.

"This is the greatest change in immigration processing since the Internet. What requires weeks if not months to process would only take days with the new system. There are going to be cascades of savings in time and money," said immigration lawyer and policy analyst Richard Kurland.

"A lot of countries have used predictive analytics as a tool but not for immigration processing. Canada Revenue Agency also uses the techniques to identify red flags. It uses artificial intelligence. It is decision-making by machines. The dividends of this exercise are huge."

The Immigration Department's Wemp, however, said the department's plans shouldn't be classified as artificial intelligence because a predictive model cannot exercise judgment in the same way as a human and officers will always remain central to the process.

Calling the government's move evolution rather than revolution, Andrew Griffith, a retired director general of the Immigration Department, said applying the technology to immigration processing is a big deal for the public mostly because of border security concerns.

For Griffith, however, the bigger worry is what algorithms officials use to codify the computer system.

"The more you can bring the government to the 21st century, the better. But we should be using the tools intelligently and efficiently. The challenge is not to embed biases into the system and create extra barriers for applicants," said Griffith, adding that an oversight body is warranted to monitor the automated decisions. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

CANADIAN KILLED

'I want him home'

The family of a Canadian killed fighting for Kurdish forces in Syria has launched an online campaign to bring his body home for a proper burial.

Nazzareno Tassone, 24, died Dec. 21 near Raqqa, Syria, according to a letter from the Kurdish People's Protection Unit (YPG), which hailed him as a hero.

"The respected Tassone family lost their beloved son, and we The YPG lost our daring and courageous companion," the letter to his family said. The letter said his body is still in the hands of Daesh.

"I want him home because he's Canadian," said his sister, Giustina Tassone, 21. "Even though he's dead, he deserves proper treatment."

Tassone's family has launched a Facebook page called Bring Nazzareno Tassone Home.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Nazzareno Tassone FACEBOOK

Growing a wapato an arduous task

Jen St. Denis
Metro | Vancouver

Last April, members of the Katzie First Nation gathered on the rocky beach of Alouette Lake to do something they hadn't done in over 100 years. They were there to cook and eat wapato, a type of potato that had once been a staple of their diet.

"We cooked it plain, and everybody has said should we do this again they would like some butter, salt and garlic," said Debbie Miller, general manager of the Katzie Development Limited Partnership. "But the first one, we thought, needed to be clean."

Recently published results of an archeological dig show that the Katzie were cultivating wapato near Pitt Meadows as far back as 3,800 years ago.

As for what the small wild potato tastes like? Some described it as tasting a bit like asparagus or like the cob part of corn.

"It's not awful — but plain it's not very good," Miller said.

Wapato bulbs. CONTRIBUTED

NOVA SCOTIA

Shootings underscore need for better veterans' services
Canada's military watchdog urged the feds Wednesday to do more for soldiers forced out of the Forces for medical reasons after an Afghan war veteran and three family members were found shot dead in Nova Scotia.

Retired corporal Lionel Desmond, 33, was found dead Tuesday in a home in Upper Big Tracadie, N.S., from what appeared to be a self-inflicted gunshot wound, RCMP say. His wife, their 10-year-old daughter and his mother also died of gunshot wounds. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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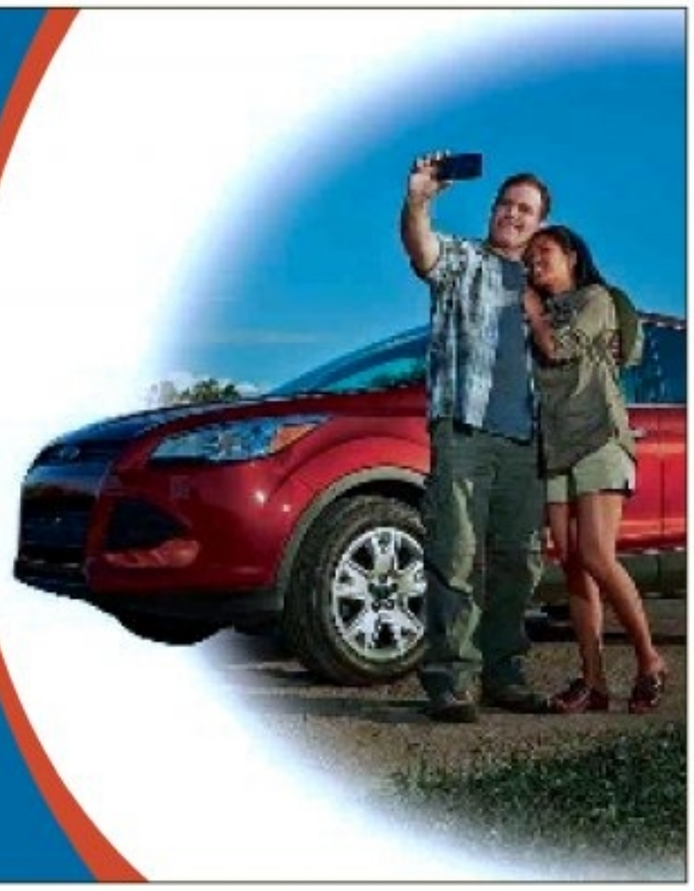


Facing jail for helping migrants

FRANCE

Farmer could get up to five years in prison

Cedric Herrou AFP/GETTY IMAGES

A French activist farmer facing potential prison time defended his aid to illegal African migrants in court Wednesday, calling it an act of humanity and not a crime.

"Helping someone is not an offence!" read a placard at a protest in support of farmer Cedric Herrou outside the courthouse where he went on trial Wednesday.

The case has called attention to those who have resisted Europe's anti-migrant sentiment and are offering food, lodging or other aid to people from impoverished or war-torn countries coming to Europe illegally. There has notably been an outpouring of support in the Roya valley in the Alps this year.

Herrou went on trial charged with helping illegal migrants enter France, travel in France and stay in France. His lawyer Zia Oloumy pleaded for acquittal, insisting a crime hasn't been proven. The court could sentence him to up to five years in prison and 30,000 euros in fines if a guilty verdict is delivered Feb. 10.

Herrou says he is doing his civic duty and will keep helping the migrants, who are mainly from Eritrea and Sudan.

"The law is against me, against actions to help people in need, so we have to change the laws," he said. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

IN BRIEF

A pot-luck style inauguration awaits

A group of marijuana legalization advocates plan to hand out thousands of joints during President-elect Donald Trump's inauguration.

Pro-marijuana organization DCMJ will begin distributing the 4,200 joints at 8 a.m. on Jan. 20 on the west side of Dupont Circle. The participants will then walk to the National Mall.

At four minutes and 20 seconds into Trump's speech, DCMJ founder Adam Eidinger says protesters will light up.

He says it is legal as long as it's done on District of Columbia land. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CHINA SMOG SO THICK YOU CAN BARELY SEE A woman uses a scarf for protection against air pollution on a pedestrian bridge in central China's Anhui province. The province was blanketed by severe smog on Tuesday. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Istanbul on high alert as manhunt continues

Police increased security around Istanbul on Wednesday and detained some 20 people with suspected links to the deadly New Year's Eve night club attack as the hunt for the gunman stretched into a fourth day.

Turkish Foreign Minister Mevlut Cavusoglu said the gunman — who killed 39 people during New Year's celebrations at the Reina club before reportedly escaping in a taxi — had been identified, but did not name him.

Police set up checkpoints across Istanbul as security levels remained high. They stopped cars and taxis, with passengers and drivers holding up their identifications while officers inspected the vehicles.

The city has been on edge since the attack on the upscale club popular with local celebrities, and on Wednesday residents beat up a man said to resemble the wanted gunman before handing him over to police, the Dogan news agency reported.

Some 20 people, including 11 women, were taken into custody in police raids in the Aegean port city of Izmir, the state-run Anadolu agency said.

The suspects, from the largely Muslim Russian republic of Dagestan, as well as members of China's Muslim Uighur minority and from Syria, were believed to have lived with the gunman in an alleged Daesh cell house in the central Turkish city of Konya, the agency reported.

Daesh has claimed responsibility for the attack, saying it was in reprisal for Turkish military operations against Daesh in northern Syria. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Turkish security forces patrol near the Reina nightclub on Wednesday. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

IRAQ

At Mosul front, Iraqis fleeing and returning cross paths

An Iraqi woman washes clothes in Khazer camp for the displaced. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The two teenage sisters hid at home for most of the 2 1/2 years of rule by the Daesh. This week, as fighting engulfed their neighbourhood in the northern city of Mosul, Rusul and Doha Ghanem and their family made a run for it.

It took them three days, and they slept in empty houses. Finally, they reached the safety of government-held territory. "We just cannot believe we got out alive," said the 18-year-old Rusul, though her relief was temporarily dampened as troops lined her father and brother up with other men for security checks.

Rusul and her family were among hundreds of dazed men, women and children who fled fighting in their neighbourhood of Karama this week after it became a front line in the battle against Daesh, hauling their belongings down a main street in bags and suitcases and on push carts.

On the same street, moving in the opposite direction, were residents who had returned to their homes in the neighbouring Quds district, retaken by government forces only a few days ago. At a nearby market, they treated themselves to fresh vegetables, fruit, bread and milk for the first time in weeks.

The avenue exemplifies the multiple directions of a chaotic urban battle that has moved from district to district in eastern Mosul, tearing apart lives and families. The war has juxtaposed heavy destruction and fighting meters away from people trying to rebuild their lives, many of them reduced to destitution and begging for food or money.

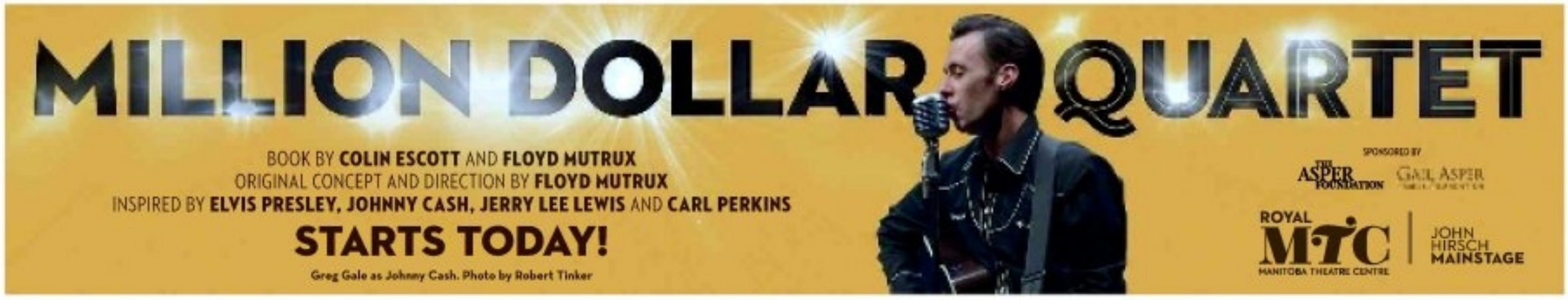
The street between the neighbourhoods was lined by badly damaged homes riddled by bullet holes. Electrical wires dangled from buildings. Concrete barriers blocked some streets. The body of a Daesh fighter lay on the side of the street. Later, soldiers dragged another body from inside a nearby house and left it next to the first one.

Residents appeared unperturbed as they walked past the bodies. A few women cursed and spat toward them, and a soldier took a selfie with the bodies, but no one else reacted.

Soldiers carefully looked over carts loaded with food that some Quds residents brought from the market. "Join us for lunch," Sabhan Mahmoud, a 35-year-old government worker, said as he made his way back home.

At the same time, military Humvees sped down the street, and trucks rumbled by carrying ammunition and water to troops on the front line in Karama, some 100-150 metres (yards) away.

As residents filtered out of Karama, including elderly people in wheelchairs, soldiers frisked the men and assembled them on a side street to run their names through a database of Iraqis linked to Daesh. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS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CRUISE SHIPS

Tracking devices to help crews anticipate your needs

High technology is taking to the high seas.

Cruise ships are being outfitted with sensors and trackers, all to help crew members better anticipate passengers' needs and whims.

Carnival Corp., the operator of cruise lines including its namesake, Princess, and Holland America, unveiled the new concierge technology at the CES gadget show in Las Vegas on Wednesday. It's scheduled to debut on the Regal Princess cruise ship in November.

With it, the door to your cabin will unlock automatically as you approach wearing your personalized tracking medallion. The wait staff can bring your favourite cocktail before you even ask.

The linchpin of the system is a tracking medallion the size of a quarter. Cruise passengers wear it as a pendant, throw it into a purse or place it in a pocket. The medallion uses wireless technologies to communicate with sensors placed around the ship, cruise terminals and even airports, where staff can provide personalized greetings as passengers fly in.

Miles Clark of Carnival Corp. demonstrates the interface on Tuesday in Las Vegas. JOHN LOCHER/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

> **If it doesn't resonate, it's back to the drawing board.**
> Arnold Donald

Crew members armed with tablets can respond to any needs nearby. For example, a guest could be having a drink when a crew member comes by to remind him that a yoga class starts in five minutes.

Or a waiter working poolside can ask whether a guest wants her usual gin and tonic.

Whether anticipating guests' needs will feel useful or creepy remains to be seen. Those who might be spooked don't have to use the medallion or can limit how much they want to participate, Carnival CEO Arnold Donald said.

"In the end, the guests will tell us," Donald told The Associated Press. "If it doesn't (resonate), it's back to the drawing board." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Trump protecting industry: Unifor

PRESIDENT-ELECT

Rhetoric on trade earning organized labour favour

It probably bodes well for Canadian auto workers that U.S. president-elect Donald Trump is leaning on Ford and General Motors to keep auto production at home, says Unifor national president Jerry Dias.

"Trump, as crazy as he is, is showing governments can play a role" in helping to strengthen the auto sector to save or even create jobs, said Dias, whose union represents 23,000 Canadian employees of GM, Ford and Fiat Chrysler.

He said Ottawa should also "stick its nose" in the auto business after Ford Motor Co. aborted plans this week to build a $1.6-billion US small-car factory in Mexico that Trump had criticized, with the automaker announcing instead it would invest further in Michigan.

The surprise move Tuesday was announced just hours after Trump hammered General Motors Co. on Twitter for building its Chevy Cruze hatchback in Mexico and threatening a "big border tax" on the company for importing those vehicles into the U.S.

"I'm thrilled about Ford's investment in Michigan instead of Mexico and creating 700 jobs," said Dias, adding that he thinks Trump's persistent interventionist campaign with U.S. corporations is clearly making an impact.

Despite the fact that cars and trucks manufactured in Canada are also exported to the U.S., Dias says Trump has "bigger fish to fry" than to bring the hammer down on Canadian imports at this point.

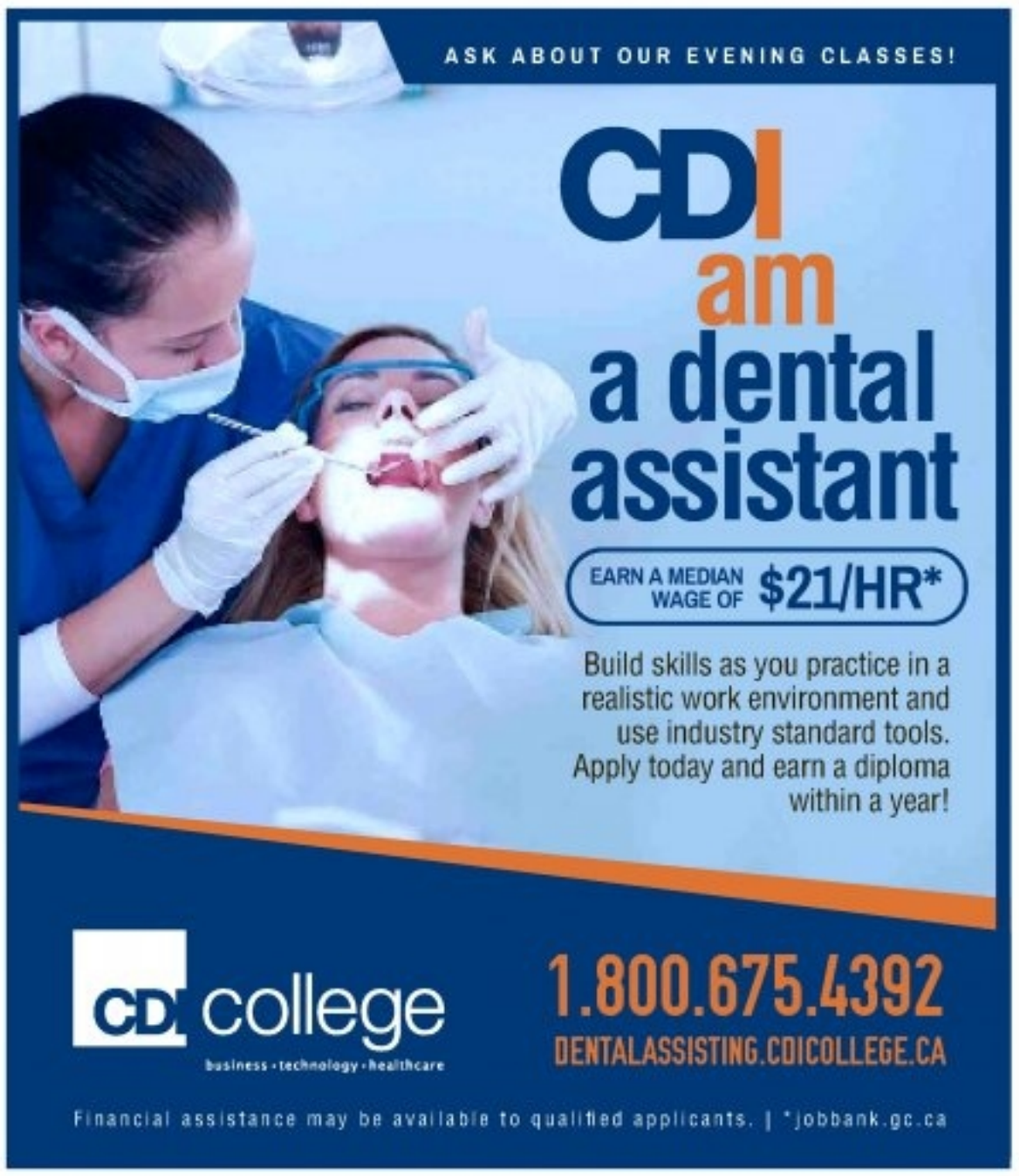
> **Trump, as crazy as he is, is showing governments can play a role.**
> Jerry Dias

He also said he couldn't be happier with the president-elect's threats of hefty taxes on carmakers who build vehicles south of the Rio Grande on the cheap and then sell them back to U.S. consumers.

And he's all for Trump's plans to renegotiate the North American Free Trade Agreement, which he says killed thousands of both American and Canadian auto sector jobs since it was passed in 1994.

"Canada had a $12-billion trade surplus in manufacturing before NAFTA, and now we have a $120-billion trade deficit. There's no question it plays a role," Dias said.

Analysts say the auto industry has the most at stake with Trump's vow to renegotiate NAFTA, which has allowed car makers and suppliers to move production to Mexico in recent years without facing tariffs. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE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metro VIEWS
Your essential daily news
Thursday, January 5, 2017

ALEX GILL ON WHY WE NEED A THOUSAND MORE REINAS

Istanbul's Reina nightclub was (and is) a symbol of a future that is directly opposed to the extremists' divisive ideal of a polarized world.

The news of New Year's Eve attack on Istanbul's Reina nightclub was sadly not unique in 2016. Similar attacks happen seemingly every week in some part of the world. But Reina holds a personal significance for a number of Canadians and a growing network of young people across the globe.

Reina was one of the Istanbul venues that hosted hundreds of young entrepreneurs from around the world — including dozens of Canadians — during the 2015 G20 Young Entrepreneurs' Alliance Summit. The Alliance Secretariat is based in Toronto and traces its origins to the 2010 G20 summit in that city. Each year, the Alliance summit brings together young entrepreneurs to share ideas, build new relationships and talk about the world they want to create.

During my last visit to Reina, I talked with young people from countries as diverse as the U.S., Poland, Australia, Italy, Japan and Brazil about their ideas. I met young Turkish women and men who were hungry to meet others from around the world. I heard from Mexicans who were fighting government corruption, from Indians who were seeking connections in Europe and North America, from Saudis who wanted to help their society evolve in a new direction.

Find new ways to talk with each other. Build bridges across cultures. Enjoy life and dream of a better life for us and for others.

With the broad span of the Bosporus bridge arching overhead in the night sky, young people from incredibly different cultures and backgrounds met, danced and talked about their futures. It was a club full of optimism and music and dancing, fuelled by a belief that tomorrow would be better than today.

Victims of the New Year's Eve attack on Istanbul's Reina nightclub were merely out celebrating and enjoying life. AFP/GETTY IMAGES

The contrast between that happy memory and the grainy footage of the gunman walking through those same rooms on New Year's Eve could not be more pointed. Indiscriminately spraying bullets into the crowd. Returning to the fallen to shoot them again and again. Casually committing incredible violence against people who merely wanted to celebrate and enjoy life.

It would be too trite to say terrorists do this because "they hate our way of life." The reality is a bit more nuanced. Extremists of all stripes want a polarized world where the divide is clear between "us" and "them." The Reina that I and hundreds of others enjoyed represents a future that is directly opposed to that divisive ideal.

Our natural reaction in the face of such violence is to turn away from each other. To raise the level of our rhetoric. To introduce more barriers, more walls, more ways to isolate each other. But if we truly want to honour the more than 100 people who were killed or injured in that attack, we should redouble our efforts to do exactly what I saw young people doing in Reina during the G20 Young Entrepreneurs' Alliance Summit. Find new ways to talk with each other. Build bridges across cultures. Enjoy life and dream of a better life for us and for others.

I was reminded of an incident in 2011, early in the history of our G20 group. Our French colleagues hosted a summit in Nice, bringing speakers such as Mohammed Yunus to challenge and inspire us at a time when Europe was beginning its fiscal crisis. One panel discussion featured French bankers, industrialists and others who were decidedly pessimistic about the future of Europe.

Yet the young people in the audience had other ideas. They talked about their dreams for a growing and confident Europe, one that could encourage more young people to travel and start companies no one had yet thought of. With a mixture of irritation and admiration, one of the panellists responded by saying "Oh, you young people and your enthusiasm!"

And that is the point. That is why we need a thousand Reinas across the world. That is why we need to encourage the bonds between people and cultures that only freedom, true personal and economic freedom, can help create. Because it is those new bonds that will show those who think problems are only solved through violence and walls that a better way is indeed possible.

Alex Gill is a Toronto-based social entrepreneur and activist who has moderated the G20 Young Entrepreneurs' Alliance since 2010.

VICKY MOCHAMA

Men are rebranding their activities — and women are helping

In the fight for equality, we haven't yet levelled the playing field when it comes to being sick.

Until now. When my body started heating up with a fever, I didn't realize I was making a feminist breakthrough. (I mostly realized I didn't have any medicine in the house.)

I don't just have any regular flu. I have manflu.

Manflu is when men are cold and have a lot of feelings about it, she says derisively. Actually, it's a pejorative used to describe how men behave when facing a mild illness like the common cold. There's an Internet meme that shows a woman in the middle of giving birth juxtaposed next to a man in bed with a thermometer in his mouth. The caption reads, "During labour, the pain is so great that a woman can almost imagine what a man feels like when he has a fever."

I know I'm afflicted with manflu because I have sent several all-caps texts to friends and family. At 1 a.m. in our family group chat, I may have sent a message about feeling like there are a thousand knives in my throat. I have claimed such despondency that my mother delivered a week's worth of food to my house. I lost my voice for two days and wrote, "I feel so powerless" on my bedroom mirror. No one of any gender has ever had a case of the flu this bad.

Because it's 2017 (a.k.a. the future) and I am a feminist, I can get anything a man can get. Including the flu virus and the attendant dramatics about it.

Feminism — if you squint hard at the fine print — says women can now do things that men have been doing for ages. For example: wearing pants. We do that now.

We also still wear skirts but that is because modern skirts have pockets — another feminist breakthrough.

But just as we're scaling the heights of gendered oppression, men are rebranding their special activities. You've seen it all over the place. Take a regular bar of soap and put it in a black box. Now it's 'guy soap.' That delicious light-with-hints-of-pear blush wine? Stick a motorcycle on the label, dudes: we're drinking brosé.

Being the wonderful creatures we are, women are helping with this branding effort. When a man explains a woman's expertise back to her, we don't call it patronizing, condescending and wholly unnecessary. We call it mansplaining. There are more variations: manterrupting (when men interrupt), manspreading (when men spread their legs), manboxing (OK, I made this one up but it means when a man is a box).

Naturally, the next step in the fight for equality will be when women take over being systematically rude.

I've done my part by contracting manflu. I did it for the cause.

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SELF HELP

Author says arguments can improve relationships

Dealing with opposition, be it from a bossy co-worker, a messy roommate or a nagging partner, is among the most stress-provoking experiences in life. In his new book, Resolve: Negotiating Life's Conflicts with Greater Confidence, Hal Movius argues that conflict actually produces beneficial outcomes and makes our relationships better — but only if it is dealt with wisely.

Offering tips to identify and handle tough negotiating tactics, secrets to managing (and maintaining) poise when emotions flare and mastering the art of conflict, Movius spoke with Torstar from Charlottesville, Va.

Why do you believe that becoming a better negotiator is a good new year's resolution?
One is that conflict is inevitable. We seem to be entering a time globally where there's more conflict in public and political life but, even if that weren't the case, to have relationships (and) to work effectively with others, we are going to encounter disagreements. Most of us improvise our way through it or avoid it. Thinking like a negotiator and learning key moves can help you to be more proactive and to normalize the idea that conflict is an overlooked opportunity.

Are there any pitfalls you see when people engage with conflict? What do you think we should be trying this year?
What I tried to do in the book is look at how each of us might fall prey to different pitfalls and how to use specific tactics to counter those but, if I had to generalize, I would say that people don't see how a conflict can become a negotiation. Seeing conflict as a part of leading a good life and an occasion for better outcomes rather than a headache would be the thing I would wish for most people to do. That's also what the research tells us: You can do conflict better but you have to treat it like other difficult tasks, or a practice that you develop over time. You don't just become a good tennis player or cook by having the sudden urge to do it — it takes work. There are ways of practising negotiation that makes you better.

Fight better this year

Conflict resolution tips if your plan for 2017 is to stop being a pushover

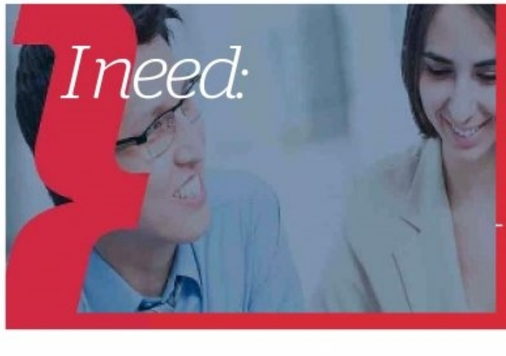
ISTOCK

Early in the book, you write that people don't see good negotiation modelled enough. So what does good negotiation look like, say, in a personal relationship?
Partners who have "good fights" tend to pick their moments. They don't push and say, "we need to talk about X right now" or start by insisting. The second thing is they start with a constructive frame and a specific complaint about a thing that happened and not a criticism about the character of the other person. Don't start an important conversation after a busy day or a few beers. Another tip is that, if you have to talk through something as a couple, it helps if you take a walk together instead of sitting across the kitchen table.

What about in the workplace?
Effective leaders, more than anything else, tend to imagine how the other side might see a situation and the issues. The big misconception in conflict is that you have to convince the other side that they have to care about the same things you do. What great negotiators do is ask a ton of questions at the front end about what the other party really cares about. If I can figure out what is most important to you and to me and notice those differences, I can craft a proposal that exploits them without just compromising.

You write that learning to navigate conflict within close relationships strengthens the bond. Can you explain?
So the first thing is that if I am not afraid to enter into conflict and I have a repertoire of helpful moves to navigate it, I'm more likely to get more of the things that I want while preserving the relationship I have. The second thing is that, if I learn about some of the pitfalls or the behaviours that aren't helpful I can learn to recognize them. When couples recognize those patterns, they can also then ask: "What can we do about it? " There are things we can do to contain conflict and steer the conversation in a direction that can take it away from the rocky places where we can do damage. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

> **Cultivating curiosity about yourself and the other person is a powerful move.**
> Hal Movius, a psychologist and negotiation expert



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BIRDS ART LIFE

Memoir takes flight uncovering nature

Kyo Maclear's memoir, Birds Art Life, is out now. TORSTAR

Kyo Maclear was at a low point — shaken by her father's faltering health and feeling like she had a "broken part" — when she found uplift in an unlikely source: birds.

It was 2013 and Maclear's dad, the journalist and documentary filmmaker Michael Maclear, had recently suffered two strokes. As the children's author and novelist helped tend to her father in drab hospitals and rehabilitation facilities, she struggled to write (it seemed an "overly complicated, dubious effort"), found her solitary time fragmented by caretaking duties as both daughter and mother, and failed to find enduring distraction in art lessons or other outlets.

Then she watched Alan Zweig's documentary 15 Reasons to Live, which her composer husband was scoring, and found resonance in the story of Jack Breakfast, a Toronto musician who found unexpected peace photographing birds. Maclear arranged to meet the musician and soon a project took flight: she would shadow him on his birding sojourns for one year and document what she found.

"Maybe in my fantasy I'd like to be a grand expeditionary writer," Maclear said one morning recently from a booth in High Park's Grenadier Restaurant, "and this guy seemed to be doing grand expeditions in the city and seeing incredible things.

"It just seemed amazing, magical and spacious, and I didn't feel my life was very spacious at the time. I felt very squeezed and grounded in my life. I felt maybe that I wanted something transcendent. Birds gave me that."

The result of Maclear's year is her new memoir Birds Art Life, an incandescent exploration of beauty, inspiration, art, family and freedom that seems to leave no topic out of its binocular scope. The book shares obvious appeal to fans of Helen Macdonald's 2015 bestseller H is for Hawk.

It's worth pointing out that pre-existing bird knowledge is definitely not a prerequisite to reading Birds Art Life. Certainly, Maclear didn't know anything about birds before her yearlong aviary apprenticeship and she was perhaps an unlikely candidate for the pastime.

A lifelong city-dweller, Maclear was born in London and raised in Toronto.

When Maclear began her adventures in birding, though, she discovered nourishment in nature. She began to notice the beauty of the birds.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Affectionate squabbles in Fisher-Reynolds doc

BRIGHT LIGHTS

Struggles with aging, manic depression highlighted

HBO has released the trailer for a documentary on the complicated but loving relationship between a mother and daughter, Hollywood stalwarts Debbie Reynolds and Carrie Fisher.

The documentary, titled Brights Lights: Starring Carrie Fisher and Debbie Reynolds, will premiere on the network on Jan. 7.

Clips show the pair affectionately squabbling over an outdated cell phone as well as discussing Fisher's struggle with manic depression, now known as bipolar disorder, as well as the difficulty of aging.

"Age is horrible for all of us but she (Reynolds) falls from a greater height," Fisher observes.

Its original March release date was moved up following the sudden death on Dec. 27 of Fisher, 60, a best-selling author best known for playing Princess Leia in the original Star Wars trilogy who reprised the role for the first film in the new trilogy, Star Wars: The Force Awakens in 2015.

Debbie Reynolds, best known for her roles in films like Singin' in the Rain and The Unsinkable Molly Brown — which earned her an Oscar nomination for best actress — was 84 when she died a day later on Dec. 28.

USA Today described the documentary, which had its world premiere at the Cannes Film Festival last May, as "an intimate portrait of Hollywood royalty" told through interviews, home movies and other material.

Debbie Reynolds holds Carrie Fisher is the HBO documentary Bright Lights, set to premiere on the network on Jan. 7. HANDOUT

People Magazine has reported a memorial will be held for Fisher and Reynolds on Thursday, Jan. 5.

Mother and daughter, who were next-door neighbours in a Hollywood compound, will be buried on Friday, Jan. 6 at the Forest Lawn Memorial Park in Los Angeles.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

TRUMP

Reality star to join White House

Omarosa Manigault is getting hired.

A memorable contestant in the first season of The Apprentice, Manigault is expected to join President-elect Donald Trump's White House staff, according to two people familiar with the decision. Her job is expected to focus on public engagement.

Manigault was one of Trump's most prominent African-American supporters during the campaign and has been working with his transition team. Her effusive praise of Trump has at times drawn criticism.

"Every critic, every detractor, will have to bow down to President Trump," she said in an interview for a PBS Frontline documentary about the presidential campaign. "It is the ultimate revenge to become the most powerful man in the universe."

Manigault, who prefers to use only her first name, made it through nine weeks of The Apprentice before Trump directed his infamous tagline, "You're fired," at her. She was portrayed as a cut-throat contestant during the season. She returned to Trump's Apprentice franchise several times and has appeared on other reality TV shows.

Manigault said she has stayed close to Trump over the years and served as his campaign's director of African-American outreach.

This will be Manigault's second season at the White House. She worked in the office of Vice-President Al Gore during the Clinton administration.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Omarosa Manigault. EDUARDO MUNOZ ALVAREZ/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

The books that you leave behind tell their own story

INTERVIEW

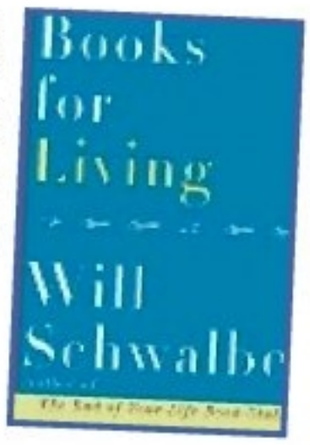
How an avid reader left a life portrait on his shelves

Sue Carter
For Metro Canada

Will Schwalbe had an old friend, who like himself, was a voracious collector of books, amassing thousands of volumes. Around the age of 70, this friend made a decision to keep exactly 100 titles in his possession — if he bought a new book, he would give away or donate another one off his shelves.

When he died a decade later, he left a quirky collection, one that Schwalbe describes as a remarkable portrait of a man who enjoyed travel, photography and martini culture.

"I love that idea that you can compose your autobiography not in words or sentences but in the books you chose to keep around and leave behind," says Schwalbe.



It is also fair to say that as a longtime New York publishing executive, Schwalbe, who is speaking at Toronto's Bluma Appel Salon on January 10, has built his own life story with words on pages.

As his mother was going through chemotherapy sessions, the two avid readers would share books to pass the time. Their discussions became the basis of his 2012 best-selling memoir The End of Your Life Book Club.

Schwalbe's new title, Books for Living, chronicles 26 titles that have a personal meaning or connection to various times in his life. Written in an informally chatty style, Schwalbe didn't intend to produce a definite list of the greatest books ever published, or even a collection of his favourite reads.

"These are 26 wonderful books that came to me at a time when I needed them and I think have something that will move, delight, instruct others," he says. "I hope at the end of this, I will have added to everyone's to-read pile, but also to look differently at the ways that books have impacted their lives."

The list is as eclectic and unexpected as the stories behind them. Reading Homer's The Odyssey under the tutelage of a demanding classics teacher showed Schwalbe that sometimes being mediocre is okay, and should even be embraced. Stuart Little, E.B. White's beloved children's book about a nattily attired boy-mouse, is a reminder to be as cheerful and optimistic as possible (and to "dress smartly.") Even Paula Hawkins' blockbuster thriller The Girl on the Train taught Schwalbe lessons about trust.

"I think there are wonderful things to be had from all sorts of different books," he says. "Some of the greatest experiences I've had have been with what people refer to as genre books. Pieces of wisdom from Jack Reacher novels have been as meaningful as gems I've found in the world's great poetry."

Like The End of Your Life Book Club, Books for Living also serves as a tribute to Schwalbe's loved ones, in particular his essay on Charles Dickens' David Copperfield, which he transforms into an emotional tribute to an old friend who died suddenly.

"One of the themes that I love grappling with and has been very important to me is what can we do for the dead," Schwalbe says. "We can read for them. We can read books that they loved, and books we think they would have loved. That's really a way of keeping them present in our lives."

Sue Carter is the editor at Quill & Quire magazine.

THE KARDASHIAN KOMEBACK KIM RETURNS TO SOCIAL MEDIA Kim Kardashian has made her long-awaited return to social media, three months after going silent in the wake of being held up at a Paris hotel. It's another example of a celebrity shunning media interviews post-controversy, instead controlling their own image through personal social media accounts. Kardashian posted pictures of her family, a video of her domestic life on YouTube, and this photo with the caption, "my son." INSTAGRAM/@KIMKARDASHIAN

JOHANNA SCHNELLER WHAT I'M WATCHING

Networks chase their tails ...then eat them

THE SHOW: Jimmy Kimmel Live!, Jan. 2, 2017 (ABC)
THE MOMENT: The Ouroboros

Former Bachelorette Kaitlyn Bristowe. CONTRIBUTED

The actor Joel McHale, who mocked TV professionally when he hosted The Soup, is Kimmel's first guest. Kimmel asks him to comment on The Bachelor, which had its season premiere earlier that night (on ABC), with Bachelor Nick Viall.

McHale is scathing. He calls the show "a parade of unstable sluts trying to get a date." He says former Bachelor Jake Pavelka "looked like he should have starred in American Psycho." He demonstrates how both Jake and Nick talk while smiling. (It's creepy and hilarious.) Asked his favourite Bachelorette, he answers, "Kaitlyn, because there were like, five Kaitlyns."

"You mean the Kaitlyn (Bristowe) who's here tonight?" Kimmel asks.

"I don't care," McHale scoffs.

Kimmel's next guests are Bristowe and Viall. She rejected him in a prior season, so everyone anticipates awkwardness. But Bristowe wants only to diss McHale. She calls him a dick. "I saw you backstage," she says, "and guess what, I don't like you."

"Who knew when we invited you on," Kimmel asks, chuckling, "that all your anger would be directed at Joel McHale?"

Cable and streaming services are shredding network TV, and this is the networks' solution: to double down on themselves. On his ABC show, Kimmel hosts ABC stars who talk about other ABC shows; he'll also host the Oscars — on ABC. On Sunday night, NBC's Jimmy Fallon is hosting the Golden Globes on NBC.

They're all busily pretending TV is still a closed shop, and they still run it. They're the Ouroboros — the creature that eats its own tail.

Johanna Schneller is a media connoisseur who zeroes in on pop-culture moments. She appears Monday through Thursday.

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metro HOME

Your essential daily news

Lululemon founder Chip Wilson's Vancouver home now valued at more than $75 million

12"%

According to home improvement website Houzz, home renovations account for 12 per cent of couples considering divorcing.

Matthew Chung and his wife Gloria Chung go over renovation plans. Updating a home can put strain on a relationship, but with the right attitude and strategies you can overcome this, writes Matthew Chung. AARON HARRIS/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Don't let a reno demo your love

RENO ROOKIE

Tips for keeping the peace with your partner

Matthew Chung
For Torstar News Service

For the past 24 months I've been trying to impress my wife, one adequately done renovation project at a time.

I'm married to a beautiful and talented woman who handles a power drill with confidence and can paint a wall with precision — which ratcheted up the pressure on me to be as proficient at renovating.

So I took the lead on do-it-yourself projects on our east-end home, a challenge to myself to learn new skills and prove to her I could fulfil a vague concept of what it means to be a grown-up. I imagined I'd get better with practice and hoped that my wife would view my mishit nails as a sort of love letter to her.

But I soon realized that we would have to look at those "love letters" for a very long time, and eventually even I would see them for the eyesores they were.

And with some projects lasting weeks, it would be naive to think I would tinker away by myself with the house in a constant state of construction, without needing the help of my wife.

In reality I've depended on my wife's input, assistance and sometimes her labour to get through renos and, when she isn't in the trenches with me, I look to her for reassurance that I'm not completely missing the mark.

> **To ensure resentment doesn't build up, you'll want to match your partner's work rate.**
> Matthew Chung

Apparently, renovating as a couple is not to be taken lightly — home renovations make 12 per cent of people consider divorce, according to a survey by home improvement website Houzz.

While the foundation of our relationship remains strong, I think we've had to develop strategies to minimize disagreements. Here are three suggestions I have for staying on your partner's good side during a project:

Give each other space

I've found my wife and I work best together when we have responsibility for our own part of the project.

For example, she measures and sketches out how to position the mouldings on the ceiling; I cut and nail them in place. Or I use the paint roller while she uses a brush to paint the trim (because the fine detail is not my strong suit).

This saves us from tripping over each other or debating the best way to do a task. Better yet, I'd suggest you try and convince/bribe a friend to lend a hand.

No guarantee you'll finish the job any faster or the result will be any better, but I do guarantee it'll put less strain on your relationship.

Keep yourself busy

To ensure resentment doesn't build up, you'll want to match your partner's work rate, even if the work you're doing isn't advancing the renovation project.

For instance, the Sunday afternoon my wife was figuring out the aforementioned ceiling mouldings, we agreed there wasn't much I could contribute. But rather than sit back and watch TV, I spent that afternoon doing our taxes, running loads of laundry and cooked us a meal so at least there'd be fewer tasks she might feel she had to pick up later.

Keep laughing

Renovating is hard and scary. Trying to see the humour in discovering there's a giant hole where you'd expect to find drywall or that none of your walls are square will go some way to keeping your partner in a good mood and ensuring that when, at the end of the day you put the tools back in the shed, you don't have to stay out there for the rest of the night.

Matthew Chung, 33, is a communications manager attempting to renovate his first house. You can follow his progress on Instagram @mjechung.

Fresh new year, fresh new look

Decor trends take us on a little emotional journey every season. For 2017, trend spotters say we're looking for ease and comfort. Even at the luxury end of the decor spectrum, the look is less stiff suit, more velvet smoking jacket. **KIM COOK/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

RICH PURPLE

The Barry console

Designed by Brown Davis and crafted by Keith Fritz Fine Furniture, the Barry console is part of a collection of richly hued furniture that takes a cue from Art Deco, but with a modern twist. MORIS MORENO/BROWN DAVIS INTERIORS/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

JEWEL TONES

Roar & Rabbit swivel chair

This undated photo provided by West Elm shows Roar & Rabbit's sexy, sophisticated swivel chair, which evokes classic continental mid-century styling. The lush berry hue is another 2017 trend, as jewel tones continue to ride a wave of popularity started last fall. WEST ELM/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

SHADOW FLORAL

Glass art tiles

Ted Baker's gorgeous new glass art tile collection includes this Shadow Floral. It combines two of 2017's most interesting decor trends, moody hues and dramatic florals. THE TILE SHOP/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

BURLED WOOD

Cabinet by Brown Davis

This photo provided by Brown Davis Interiors shows a cabinet with brass inlay and burled wood in a beautiful green, crafted by Keith Fritz Fine Furniture. MICK HETMAN/KEITH FRITZ FINE FURNITURE/BROWN DAVIS INTERIORS/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WALNUT VENEER

Delphine buffet

This undated photo provided by West Elm shows West Elm's Delphine buffet in walnut veneer, a marble top, and brushed bronze hardware, which suggests the chic yet comfortable style of mid-century French and Italian furniture. That continental look is a strong trend going into 2017. WEST ELM/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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"We're a group of businessmen": A win Thursday in Washington will give John Tortorella and the Blue Jackets a share of the NHL's longest streak (17)

WORLD JUNIORS

Red and white eye gold

SEMIFINAL In Montreal

5 2

Anthony Cirelli had a goal and an assist and subbed-in goalie Carter Hart made 28 saves as Canada downed Sweden 5-2 in a semifinal at the world junior hockey championship on Wednesday night.

Julien Gauthier, with two, Mitchell Stephens and Dylan Strome also scored for Canada.

Canada will face the United States in the final on Thursday night while the Swedes will play in the bronze-medal game against Russia. Sweden is in danger of being shut out of the medals for a third straight year. Canada lost 3-1 to the Americans in group stage play on Dec. 31. The U.S. topped Russia 4-3 in a shootout in the other semifinal.

Joel Eriksson Ek and Carl Grundstrom had goals as Sweden scored on two of three shots on Canadian starting goalie Connor Ingram, who was replaced by Hart only 8:05 into the game. The home side battled back and emerged from the first period tied 2-2.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Jets go back to back in Florida

NHL

Young guns pace Winnipeg past Panthers

Patrik Laine had a goal and an assist to lead the Winnipeg Jets to a 4-1 victory over the Florida Panthers on Wednesday night.

Mark Scheifele, Nikolaj Ehlers, and Shawn Matthias also scored for the Jets and Connor Hellebuyck made 31 saves. Bryan Little notched two assists as Winnipeg won its second straight after losing two in a row.

Greg McKegg scored for the Panthers and Roberto Luongo stopped 35 shots.

Jaromir Jagr recorded his 1,136th assist to pass Paul Coffey for sole possession of fifth place on the NHL's all-time assists list.

The Panthers have lost five of their last six and 11 of 15.

Trailing to 2-0, the Panthers Cut their deficit in half when McKegg took a shot from the right circle that beat Hellebuyck on the glove side with 1:42 left in the second. The goal was McKegg's first of the season. Jagr got his assist to pass Coffey on the goal.

The Jets restored their two-goal lead as Ehlers one-timed the puck from the left circle into the net at 2:46 of the third.

Scheifele came from behind the net and backhanded a rebound into the net with 7:55 remaining to make it 4-1.

Winnipeg took a 1-0 lead on the goal by Matthias. Paul Postma took a slap shot from the high slot and Matthias redirected it into the net at 5:00 of the second.

The Jets made it 2-0 when Panthers defenceman Michael Matheson turned the puck over in the slot. Little passed the puck to Laine low in the left circle and his wrist shot beat Luongo at 7:24 for his team-leading 21st goal of the season.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Patrik Laine puts the Jets up 2-0 on a feed from Bryan Little on Wednesday night in Sunrise, Fla. ALAN DIAZ/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WEDNESDAY In Sunrise

4 JETS 1 PANTHERS

TRACK AND FIELD

Star Olympian couple hang 'em up

Canadian Olympic heptathlon medallist Brianne Theisen-Eaton and her American husband Ashton Eaton are retiring.

The decision comes five months after Theisen-Eaton won bronze at the Rio Olympics, and Ashton captured gold in the decathlon.

Track and field's super couple, who met while competing for the University of Oregon and married in July of 2013, announced their decision on their social media accounts, and side-by-side essays on their website.

"The past 8 years have been truly awesome," the two said via their Instagram account @weareeaton. "Getting to do something that we love everyday and going after our dreams has given us so much fulfillment in our lives.

"But now we are ready to move on to the next thing, the next passion and the next chapter of our lives. We're retiring from track and field. Thank you for sharing the journey with us!"

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Brianne Theisen-Eaton and Ashton Eaton GETTY IMAGES

NFL WILD-CARD GAME

QB Cook to get first ever start in playoffs

The Oakland Raiders are going with rookie Connor Cook at quarterback in their wild-card game against the Texans.

Cook gets the nod with Pro Bowler Derek Carr out with a broken leg and backup Matt McGloin nursing a shoulder injury that could make it tough for him to practice enough before Saturday's game at Houston. Cook will be the first quarterback ever to make his first career start in the post-season.

Despite appearing in just one game as a rookie, the Raiders (12-4) say Cook showed some "swagger" when he replaced McGloin in the second quarter on Sunday in Denver, and has their confidence heading into the game against the Texans (9-7).

"It's obviously not ideal, that's why it's never happened where a rookie gets his start in a playoff game," Raiders coach Jack Del Rio said on a conference call Wednesday. "Healthiest option, so it makes it really an obvious choice."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Connor Cook GETTY IMAGES FILE

Canada celebrates one of Julien Gauthier's goals on Wednesday. GETTY IMAGES

MAJOR-JUNIOR MALAISE

Time to move out of big cities

VIEW FROM THE 300S

Andrew 'Hustler' Paterson

Team Canada's rebound from a rough first period to knock off the Czech Republic on Monday night and book its spot in the world junior semifinal was not a surprise.

What was, however, was the thousands of empty seats at the Bell Centre in Montreal. For a country that has built this event up into a hugely popular annual tradition, the turnout for the host team was a complete embarrassment.

It seems Hockey Canada misjudged the market and worse, failed to act on the concerning signs from the 2015 event held in the same two markets. Going back to Toronto and Montreal was misguided and shows the driving force behind the decision was money. Ticket prices are so high that the NHL-sized buildings often didn't come close to being filled before Wednesday night's semifinal.

The world juniors has become what it is today in Canada, yes because of great marketing by Hockey Canada over the years and tremendous coverage from TSN, but also because of the passion and interest in many smaller markets across the country. Red Deer, Winnipeg, Regina/Saskatoon and Halifax have all staged hugely successful world juniors in the past and should be considered once again.

This tournament is special. It needs to once again be financially accessible to fans and brought back to some of the markets that helped turn it into a cash cow for Hockey Canada and the IIHF.

IN BRIEF

Tannehill unlikely to start as Dolphins travel to Pitt

Ryan Tannehill stood on the practice field Wednesday, idly spinning a ball in his hands as he watched teammate Matt Moore throw.

That's how Tannehill is preparing for the Miami Dolphins' playoff game Sunday at Pittsburgh, where he will also likely be a spectator.

The Dolphins' injured QB sat out practice Wednesday, making it unlikely he'll return from a sprained left knee for the team's first post-season game since 2008.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Jones, Homan upset at Canadian Open

Top curlers Rachel Homan and Jennifer Jones suffered upset losses Wednesday in the opening draw of Day 2 of the Canadian Open Grand Slam of Curling event in North Battleford, Sask.

Jacqueline Harrison of Mississauga, Ont., scored one in the eighth and final end to defeat Homan's Ottawa foursome 5-4, while Briane Meilleur stole one in an extra end to shock fellow Winnipeg skip Jones 5-4.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

MAKE IT TONIGHT

Sweet and savoury Chinese Five Spice Chicken Tray Bake

PHOTO: MAYA VISNYEI

Ceri Marsh & Laura Keogh
For Metro Canada

We love the pairing of sweet and savoury Chinese 5-Spice alongside garlic and sweetly roasted onions.

Ready in 20 minutes
Prep time: 1 hour
Cook time: 20 minutes
Serves 4

Ingredients
- 3 Tbsp olive oil, plus extra for onions
- 4 to 5 garlic cloves, pressed
- 1 Tbsp rice vinegar
- 1 Tbsp brown sugar
- 1 tsp Chinese 5-spice
- 1/2 tsp salt
- 6 large skinless, boneless chicken thighs
- 2 onions, peeled and sliced
- 1 tsp fresh chopped cilantro

Directions

1. Combine olive oil, garlic, rice vinegar, brown sugar, 5-spice and salt in a large resealable plastic bag. Add chicken thighs; seal and coat chicken with sauce. Chill at least 1 hour or overnight.

2. Preheat oven to 400. Slice and coat onion in a bit of olive oil. Spray baking sheet with non-stick cooking spray. Scatter onion slices on baking sheet.

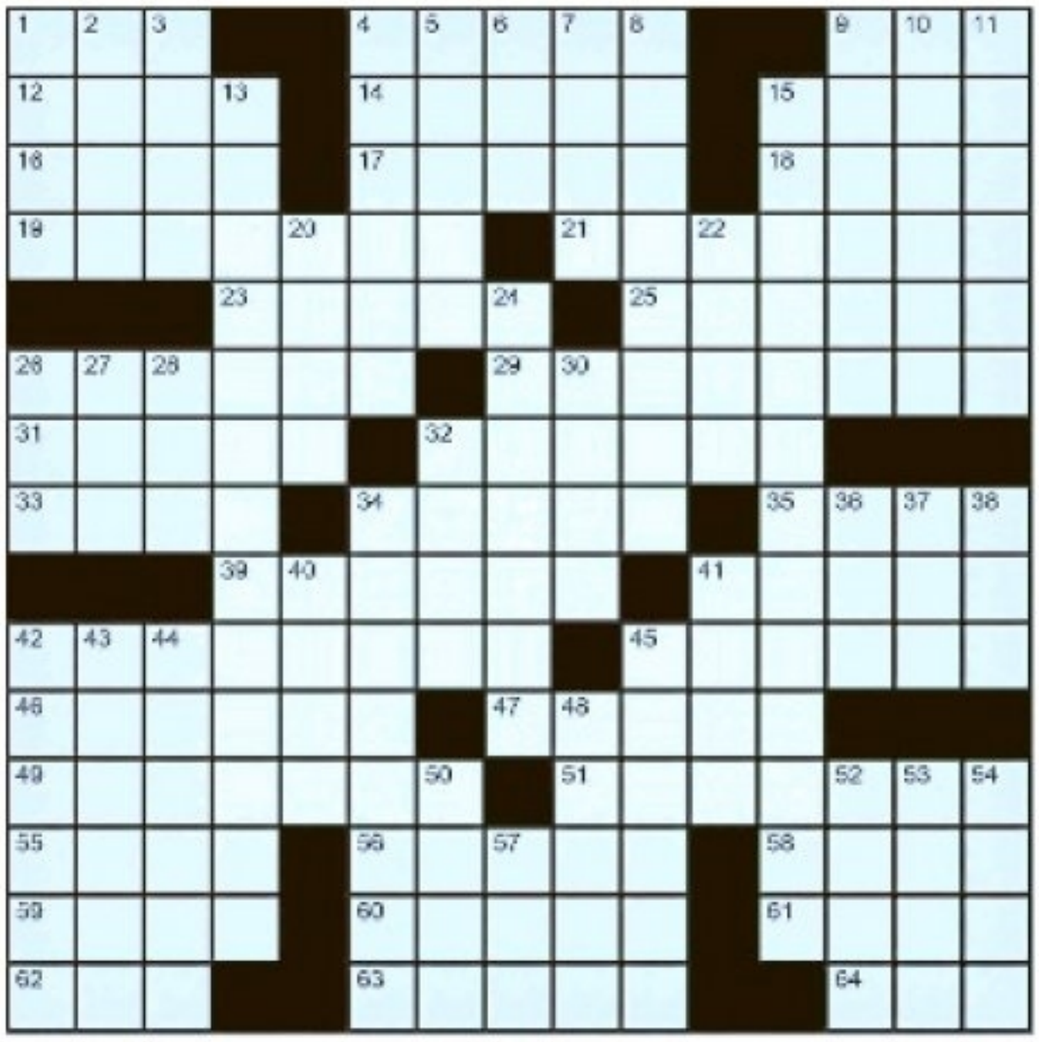
3. Remove chicken from refrigerator and arrange on top of onion. Roast until chicken is cooked through, about 20 minutes.

4. Remove tray from oven and let cool for a few minutes. Sprinkle chicken and onion with cilantro and serve warm.

FOR MORE MEAL IDEAS, VISIT SWEETPOTATOCHRONICLES.COM

CROSSWORD Canada Across and Down

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN



ACROSS
1. Backwards boiling-ly brewed beverage
4. Wooden strips
9. Round shape, for short
12. Travel, like a tributary
14. _ rate monitor
15. Additional
16. Canadian singer Mr. Vannelli
17. Ms. O'Donnell
18. Characters' selves
19. Follicles fastener
21. "Dripsody": Hugh _ _ (Canadian physicist/composer/electronic music instruments designer, b.1914 - d.1977)
23. Fermented milk product
25. Younger actress sister of Canadian silent film star Mary Pickford
26. Buoyant
29. _-_ brakes
31. Holier-than-thou
32. Peter of "My Favorite Year" (1982)
33. Writer's work
34. Deuce-ace
35. Browse the Web
39. Ontario village sharing the name of Shakespeare's 'Two Gentlemen' play
41. Someone saying "Shameful."
42. Flourishing
45. Ms. Anderson
46. Directed
47. Room, in Rimouski
49. Venerated
51. Alberta hamlet sharing the name of a Sir of the Round Table
55. Buckeye State
56. "You can't be serious?!": 2 wds.
58. Variety
59. Grannies
60. Humdrum
61. New Brunswick's motto: _ Reduxit (Hope restored)
62. Pastureland parent
63. Filled
64. Prefix to 'Clean' (Infomercial product)

DOWN
1. Kabul's country, briefly
2. Director Mr. Kazan
3. Dancer/singer Ms. Basil
4. Short _ (Curt brush-off)
5. Q. "What's novelist Mr. Uris' first name?" A. "_, _ think."
6. Some batteries
7. Three-book-set, tiny-ly
8. Worky boot feature: 2 wds.
9. _ ergo sum (I think therefore I am)
10. 'Jagged Little Pill' hit
11. Look for again
13. Fitness industry products: 2 wds.
15. Vegetarian's almost-like-the-real-thing purchases, perhaps: 2 wds.
20. Particular pulses
22. Spiral shape
24. TV exec's interest
26. Pertinent
27. Part of a Giant's holler!
28. Brunch offering
30. Songstress Ms. Hendryx
32. "_ _ the other hand..."
34. Weapons for 'net fighter' Gladiators known as Retiarii
36. Baby guitar
37. Protestant, e.g.
38. Monk's title
40. Hardly _ (Rarely)
41. High
42. Queen's chair
43. Buck Owens/Roy Clark variety show: 2 wds.
44. Valley
45. Didn't sit on the bench at the game
48. Quartz variety
50. "_ the Explorer"
52. Prefix to 'allergenic'
53. Peak
54. Ms. Lovato
57. Stand-up's gift

IT'S ALL IN THE STARS Your daily horoscope by Francis Drake

Aries March 21 - April 20
Because you feel headstrong and passionate about something today, you cannot predict how this day will unfold. But it's safe to say that you will have detours and interruptions.

Taurus April 21 - May 21
This is a friendly and social time for you, which is why you are intrigued by someone who is different or from another culture. A casual friendship might heat up into something cozy.

Gemini May 22 - June 21
A friend might surprise you today. Or possibly, you will meet someone who is a real character. In any event, it's not a boring day.

Cancer June 22 - July 23
A discussion with a boss or parental figure will surprise you today. Whatever happens, do not be hasty — and do not quit your day job.

Leo July 24 - Aug. 23
Travel plans might be detoured, delayed or cancelled today. Be ready for anything, because interruptions are par for the course.

Virgo Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
Double-check financial matters with your bank and anything to do with taxes and debt today, because something unexpected might be brewing. Don't be caught off guard.

Libra Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
A close friend or partner likely will say or do something that surprises you today. Keep a lighthearted point of view. Humour always puts perspective on things

Scorpio Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
Computer glitches, staff shortages and cancelled appointments are just some of the surprises that will interrupt your routine at work. Don't make a big deal about things.

Sagittarius Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
A surprise invitation to a social event might come your way. Conversely, social plans might be changed. It could be anything, which means you have to be ready to go with the flow.

Capricorn Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
Your home routine will be interrupted today, perhaps because of a discussion with a parent or a female relative. Be wise and remain cool.

Aquarius Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
Pay attention to everything you say and do today in order to prevent doing anything you later regret. An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure.

Pisces
Feb. 20 - March 20
Keep an eye on your money and possessions today to prevent loss or theft. Something unpredictable might happen. The upside is that you might find money or something you previously lost.

CONCEPTIS SUDOKU by Dave Green

Every row, column and box contains 1-9

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6	1	2	9	4	3	7	5	8
7	4	5	2	8	6	3	9	1
8	3	9	7	1	5	4	6	2
1	5	8	6	9	4	2	3	7
2	9	4	3	5	7	1	8	6
3	7	6	8	2	1	5	4	9
5	6	7	1	3	9	8	2	4
4	8	1	5	6	2	9	7	3
9	2	3	4	7	8	6	1	5

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